



Rochester Park & Recreation
Golfer's Scorecard - Spring 2004
David Richardson, Interim Director of Golf

Welcome to the 2004 golf season! First of all, I would like to introduce myself as Frank Taylor's replacement. Frank, golf professional at Eastwood Golf Club for 35 years and Director of Golf for the City the past three years, retired January 1. Secondly, I would like to tell you about the changes that have or will be taking place with City golf this year. All of us in the golf division are excited about the upcoming golf season and hope you are too.

For All Golfers

We've made several changes for season ticket holders this year, keeping in mind the golf division goal of providing quality, affordable golf. Season ticket, green fee, and golf course access changes are detailed in a separate notice and offer something for everybody. Golf has changed in recent years, and we are changing with it. As always, we hope you agree that our combination of 3 beautiful golf courses, high quality service, and convenience provide a value that can't be beat.

Web Site

Our internet web site has grown over the winter, and will continue to grow during the golf season. We will be providing more information about the golf courses, golf programs, golf course conditions, and other golf news throughout the year. The web site can be accessed through the Park & Recreation web site or at www.RochesterMnGolf.com.

Golf Course Conditions

Eastwood GC will benefit this year from a new irrigation system installed late last fall. Course Superintendent Jeff Minske can now water the golf course more efficiently and golf course conditions will improve, especially during dry weather. Approach shots will more easily hold on the greens and reward golfers playing a well struck shot. The big news at Northern Hills will be this fall, when sewer lines are installed in an east to west direction across the golf course. While this will be a large project, the good news is that it will be done with a minimum of interference to golfers, and several improvements to the golf facility will be made during the process. Fairways affected by last year's drought will be seeded this spring, and course conditions will rapidly improve with the growing season. Soldiers Field came out of the 2003 drought in great shape, and will only be better this year. We plan to make #9 & #18 a little more fun this summer by providing golfers a better chance to "lay up" in front of the river. Southern Minnesota's finest practice facility, Hawthorn Hills, will soon open and, as always, provide some great practice opportunities for all golfers of all ages.

Minnesota ranks second nationally in per capita rounds of golf played. I hope you have many chances this summer to add to those numbers, and enjoy yourself on the golf course!

Good Golfing,

David Richardson